

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, please insert as follows:

This application is a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP02/12654, filed in Japanese on 03 December 2002, which designated the US. PCT/JP02/12654 claims priority to JP Application No. 2001-32954 filed 06 December 2001, JP Application No. 2001-372955 filed 06 December 2001 and JP Application No. 2001-396344 filed 27 December 2001. The entire contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 7, as follows:

In a ~~fourth~~fifth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for analyzing an easily-polymerizable compound by introducing a gas containing the easily polymerizable compound into an analyzing apparatus through a sampling tube, wherein the sampling tube is a double tube, and a heating medium is fed into an outer tube of the sampling tube.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 14, as follows:

Meanwhile, the process shown in Fig. 2 is a combustion waste gas recycling process in which propylene, air and steam are mixed with each other and fed into a first-stage reactor to oxidize the mixed gas into mainly acrolein and acrylic acid; the reaction gas from the first-stage reactor is fed to a second-stage reactor to obtain a reaction production gas containing acrylic acid as a main component; the reaction production gas is then introduced into a quench column to collect and recover acrylic acid in the form of

an aqueous solution thereof; and a whole amount of waste gas from the quench column is burned by a combustion apparatus and recycled to an inlet of the first reactor. As other processes, there may be used one-pass process, unreacted propylene recycling process, etc.